

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

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TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652, N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CI

SUBJECT: STATE DEPARTMENT NEWS TRANSCRIPT SEPTEMBER 21

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE PERTINENT REMARKS CONCERNING CHILE  
MADE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT TODAY'S NOON  
PRESS BRIEFING FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE USE IN  
ANSWERING QUESTIONS:

SPOKESMAN: SEVERAL OF YOU ASKED ABOUT CHILE THIS MORNING.  
WE HAD A PRETTY CONFUSING PICTURE YESTERDAY. PERHAPS IT  
WAS BECAUSE I WASN'T PARTICULARLY EPT IN ANSWERING YOUR  
QUESTIONS, BUT THE SITUATION THIS MORNING, IT APPEARS, IS  
THAT OFFICERS AT THE EMBASSY HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO REVIEW  
THE LIST OF ALL THE DETAINEES WITH A VIEW TO DETERMINING  
WHO MIGHT BE AN AMERICAN AND WHO MIGHT NOT.

IT APPEARS THIS MORNING THAT THE ONLY PEOPLE BEING HELD  
WERE THE TWO MARYKNOLL MISSIONARIES I REFERRED TO YESTERDAY,  
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FATHERS FLYNN AND DOUGHERTY- AND MR. AND MRS. SCHESCH,

AND WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT THEY WILL BE RELEASED TODAY.

Q: ALL FOUR?

A: YES. IT WOULD APPEAR THE OTHERS, WHOSE NAMES I GAVE YOU WERE HELD FOR VARYING LENGTHS OF TIME -- SOMETIMES A MATTER OF HOURS AND SOMETIMES OVERNIGHT, BUT THEY SUBSEQUENTLY HAVE BEEN RELEASED, AS WELL AS OTHER AMERICANS WHO MAY HAVE BEEN PICKED UP.

Q: JOHN, DID WE EVER ASCERTAIN IF ANY CHARGES WERE MADE AGAINST THESE PEOPLE THAT WERE HELD?

A: WE MAY WELL HAVE THAT KIND OF INFORMATION. I DON'T HAVE IT NOW, HERE.

Q: DO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY WERE BEING HELD, JOHN?

A: AT THE STADIUM.

Q: JOHN, AT LEAST TWO AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS IN CHILE HAVE BEEN HARASSED AND IN ONE CASE AN ENTIRE HOUSE WAS RANSACKED BY THE NEW GOVERNMENT. HAVE WE MADE ANY PROTESTATIONS OR REPRESENTATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF THOSE CORRESPONDENTS? ONE IS RESIDENT AND THE OTHER IS ON TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT THERE.

A: WELL, I KNOW OF ONE CASE WHERE WHAT MIGHT BE CALLED HARASSMENT WAS INVOLVED, AND THE CORRESPONDENT IN QUESTION -- WELL, LET'S SEE, HOW DID THIS WORK OUT -- THE EMBASSY AT ANY RATE WAS IN TOUCH WITH THE AUTHORITIES PROMPTLY AND THE HARASSMENT CEASED. I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE RANSACKING OF THE HOUSE, BUT OBVIOUSLY IF THAT HAPPENED, IT WOULD BE A MATTER THAT WE COULD SURELY EXPECT WOULD BE RAISED WITH THE AUTHORITIES.

Q: ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE NEW YORK TIMES GIRL?

A: NO, I'M TALKING ABOUT ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT, AND THIS SITUATION I DON'T KNOW ABOUT.  
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Q: THE TWO I WAS TALKING ABOUT ARE DWIGHT PORTER OF NEWSWEEK, WHO HAD HIS HOUSE RANSACKED, AND MARLISE SIMONS OF THE WASHINGTON POST.

A: I WAS SPEAKING ABOUT MARLISE SIMONS.

DECONTROL DECEMBER 21, 1973. RUSH

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